



# Department of Justice

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Eastern District of California

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Docket #: 1:07-CR-00097

## **FRESNO BROTHERS SENTENCED FOR FIREARMS TRAFFICKING**

FRESNO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that ESTEVAN RODRIGUEZ, 21, of Fresno, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Anthony W. Ishii to 87 months in prison. ESTEVAN RODRIGUEZ pleaded guilty on May 12, 2008 to firearms trafficking offenses, selling firearms to a convicted felon, and possessing an unregistered firearm. ELENOR RODRIGUEZ, 24, of Fresno, was sentenced by Judge Ishii on August 4, 2008 to 78 months in prison. He pleaded guilty on May 12, 2008 to firearms trafficking offenses, selling firearms to a convicted felon, and being a person subject to a restraining order in possession of firearms.

This case is a the product of a Project Safe Neighborhood investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Fresno Police Department. Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) is a U.S. Department of Justice nationwide commitment to reduce gun crime in America by networking existing local programs that target gun crime and providing these programs with additional tools necessary to be successful. To learn more, go to [www.psn.gov](http://www.psn.gov).

According to Assistant United States Attorney Kimberly A. Sanchez, who prosecuted the case, between February 7, 2007 and April 4, 2007, ESTEVAN and ELENOR RODRIGUEZ sold 10 firearms in eight separate controlled buys to an individual with prior felony convictions that prohibited him/her from purchasing firearms. The firearms sold included a short-barreled shotgun. The defendants did not have a federal firearms license to engage in the business of dealing firearms.

Fresno Police Chief Jerry Dyer said, “The removal of two brothers for firearms trafficking, especially selling firearms to convicted felons effectively ends a two-person crime wave and sends a strong message that Fresno is no place to buy or sell guns illegally.”

“PSN is designed to reduce gun violence and protect communities. Today’s sentencing of these defendants is a perfect example of how law enforcement works together to accomplish that goal,” said Acting Special Agent In Charge Michael P. Gleysteen.

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